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FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 256, AUGUST 19, 3 PM

PRIORITY

ACTION DEPARTMENT 256, BONN PRIORITY 228, INFORMATION LONDON
PRIORITY 162, MOSCOW PRIORITY 155, PARIS PRIORITY 166, POLAD
USAREUR PRIORITY 147.

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, STOESSEL AND MCGUIRE.

BATTLE GROUP CONVOY SCHEDULED TO DEPART HELMSTEDT 3 A.M. SUNDAY
MORNING AUGUST 20. THERE IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY THAT AUTOBAHN
CONVOY MOVEMENT WILL ENCOUNTER ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS FROM SOVIETS
AT CHECKPOINT ON SOME PRETEXT RE CONDITION AUTOBAHN OR AUTOBAHN
TRAFFIC. THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT DELAY MIGHT RESULT FROM
GENUINE CAUSE SUCH AS INSUFFICIENT SOVIET PERSONNEL ON HAND
TO PROCESS CONVOY. REPRESENTATIVE BERLIN COMMAND PROVOST
MARSHAL NOON TODAY OFFICIALLY NOTIFYING SOVIET DETACHMENT AT
HELMSTEDT OF CONVOY MOVEMENT AND REQUESTING SOVIET COOPERATION
INCLUDING FURNISHING ADEQUATE PERSONNEL. USCOB RECOMMENDING AS
ADDITIONAL PRECAUTION THAT SOVIETS BE NOTIFIED AT HIGHER LEVEL,
FOR EXAMPLE, CINCUSAREUR TO SOV LIAISON MISSION CHIEF AT
FRANKFURT.

LIGHTNER

Notes: Advance copies EUR, SS, SO. 8/19/61. CWO-JRL

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